

S.N.: 10/798,815
Art Unit: 2878

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 6-29 are currently pending. Claim 5 has been canceled and its limitations incorporated in independent claims 1, 12, and 13. Claims 23-29 have been added. Claim 23 is supported by the description on page 6, lines 5 to 6, of the specification as filed. Claim 24 is supported by the description on page 5, lines 25 to 27, of the specification as filed. Claims 25-27 are supported by page 5, lines 2-6, of the specification as filed. Claims 28 and 29 are supported by page 6, lines 4-9, of the specification as filed. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added.

The Patent Office objected to claims 14-22 as being of improper multiple dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Specifically, the Patent Office objected to the addition of “a digital camera” in the preamble of claims 14 and 15 and asserted that claims 14 and 15 failed to distinctly point out or further limit the novel part of the invention. In response, claims 14-22 have been amended. It is respectfully requested that the Patent Office remove its objection to claims 14-22, or provide alternative language that would be deemed acceptable.

The Patent Office rejected claims 16, 18, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. 112, Second Paragraph, and asserted that “said digital resizing” has insufficient antecedent basis. In response, the Patent Office has amended claims 16, 18, and 19 to remove the word “digital” from “digital resizing” and to recite -- said resizing --. It is respectfully requested that the Patent Office withdraw its rejection of claims 16, 18, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. 112, Second Paragraph.

The Patent Office rejected claims 1 and 5-22 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cooper et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,428,390.

For a claim to be anticipated, each and every claim limitation that is non-inherent must be disclosed by a reference (MPEP 2131).

Claim 1 recites “A system for displaying an image captured by a sensor array, the system comprising a buffer for storing an output from a first plurality of sensors of a sensor array; means for processing the stored output to create an image corresponding to an output from a plurality of sensors within a first area of the sensor array, wherein the plurality of sensors within the first area of the sensor array are a subset of the first plurality of sensors; means for displaying the image; a memory for receiving and storing the image; and means for changing the image displayed by

S.N.: 10/798,815
Art Unit: 2878

translating the first area.”

Claim 12 recites “A method for displaying an image, the method comprising temporarily storing an output from a first plurality of sensors of a sensor array; processing the stored output to create an image corresponding to an output from a plurality of sensors within a first area of the sensor array, wherein the plurality of sensors within the first area of the sensor array are a subset of the first plurality of sensors; displaying the image corresponding to an output from the plurality of sensors within the first area of the sensor array; receiving and storing the image in a memory; and displaying a different image in response to a user input that is equivalent to translating the first area within the sensor array.”

Claim 13 recites “A system for displaying an image, the system comprising a buffer for storing an output from a first plurality of sensors of a sensor comprising an $N \times M$ array of light sensors, a processor for processing the stored output to create an image comprising an $n \times m$ array of pixels corresponding to an output from an $n \times m$ subset of the $N \times M$ array of light sensors, wherein the $n \times m$ subset of light sensors are a subset of the first plurality of sensors, and for controlling a display to display the image, wherein the corresponding $n \times m$ subset is changeable in response to a user input to vary the image for display; and a memory for receiving and storing the image.”

Cooper, US Patent No. 5,428,390, discloses an apparatus 10 for electronic image zooming and panning which includes a pan and zoom select device 12 which may be operated by a user. The pan and zoom select device 12 provides pan and zoom control signals to an index calculator 14. The index calculator 14 computes the amount of indexing required to accomplish the desired zoom and/or panning and provides the computed indexing values to system timing circuitry 16.

The system timing circuitry 16 provides signals to an image sensor 18 and a video processor 20 to obtain the desired image on the display 22. With reference to fig 5, the frame transfer image sensor 70 receives timing signals from the system timing circuitry 16 which control the transfer of image data in the sensor 70. It appears that the whole of the image area 72 is read out from the sensor and into a storage area 76 (see column 5, lines 36 to 49 and column 6, lines 37 to 42). The image data stored in the storage area 76 of the sensor 70 appears to then be selectively read out in accordance with the desired zoom and/or panning (see column 6, lines 46

S.N.: 10/798,815
Art Unit: 2878

to 62) and then provided to the video processor 20 and the display 22.

Claim 1 has been combined with claim 5 to recite “a memory for receiving and storing the image”. Corresponding amendments have been made to independent claims 12 and 13. Cooper does not disclose or suggest “a memory for receiving and storing the image”. Cooper merely discloses on col. 3, lines 37 to 38 that “the image data are then processed and displayed on a display 22”.

In the office action, the Patent Office equates the ‘pixels in the monitor’ with the memory of claim 5. This appears to be an overly broad interpretation. The memory 18 of the present application is discussed on page 6, lines 4 to 9. It is clear from a reading of this passage that ‘a memory’ does not include pixels in a monitor and it should be noted that the memory 18 is illustrated as a separate entity to the display 12 in Fig. 1A.

The Patent Office asserted that claims 16, 18, and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cooper; however, the Patent Office did not provide an analysis as to how Cooper meets these claim limitations.

Claim 22 recites “a removable memory.” Applicant has disclosed “The memory 18 may be any suitable memory and may, for example be built-in memory such as flash memory or it may be a removable memory such as a secure digital (SD) card or a microdrive” (page 6, lines 6-9 of the Specification as filed). The Patent Office considers Cooper to anticipate this claim and asserted “such as memory is removable upon the use of force.” This definition of “removable memory” by the Patent Office is beyond the broadest reasonable interpretation of the term. Whereas, in an isolated literal sense, all memory is removable, a person of ordinary skill would not consider “the use of force” to be embedded within the meaning of “removable memory” especially in light of Applicant’s disclosure that a removable memory may be as SD card or a microdrive. Thus, claim 22 is not anticipated by Cooper.

Claims 23-29 have been added to enhance the scope of patent protection and are believed to be allowable over the prior art of record.

Consequently, embodiments of the invention as defined by the amended independent claims are novel and non-obvious with regard to Cooper.

The Patent Office is respectfully requested to reconsider and remove the rejections of the claims 1 and 5-22 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) based on Cooper, and to allow all of the pending